



Chairman's Review

2009/10 has been a challenging year in which we have not been immune from events in the outside world. It has not, however, been all bad news.

From a financial perspective the value of our investments has recovered significantly (and continues to do so). Investment income has increased slightly and our income and expenditure were virtually in balance. The Society is not, however, a business geared to profitability. Our *raison d'être* is to support Blues in need, hardship or distress.

There has been a lively debate in the Grants and Loans Committee as to the manner in which the current economic climate means that we should change the criteria to be applied when considering applications and the nature of the help to be provided. This is particularly true for students seeking financial assistance when we know that they are being burdened with ever increasing amounts of debt. We have received several applications from recent graduates who have left university with a level of debt which is overwhelming. In these cases, it is beyond the means of the Society to provide meaningful financial assistance and our efforts are, therefore, directed towards helping these applicants obtain the best advice as to what they can do. Although there is no doubt that these difficult issues will challenge us for the foreseeable future, I am confident that with the leadership of Diana Garnham we will find the best available solutions.

Perry Kitchen has taken over as Treasurer of our Society and is doing an admirable job. I have every confidence in the manner in which he and the Finance Committee are managing our funds. They have had a

lively debate regarding the manner in which funds should be invested. You may, however, rest assured that our investment policy remains conservative.

After doing sterling service on both the Presentations Committee and the Board, Bob Sillett has retired from the Society to pursue other interests. He is replaced on the Presentations Committee by Bill Avenell who has recently retired from the teaching staff at Christ's Hospital. Welcome to Bill and thanks to Clare Tattersall and her Committee, in particular Bob, for all their efforts.

The main means by which we communicate with members and beneficiaries, and potential members and potential beneficiaries, is via the newsletter and our website. I am confident that by the time you receive this newsletter our website will have been substantially upgraded. We then need to consider other means of maintaining and strengthening our contact within the Old Blues community. Suggestions would be welcomed.

As ever it is appropriate for me to record my thanks to you, our members, for your generosity and also to both my fellow directors and our non director committee members. They all give their time generously and without payment and without their sterling efforts the Society would not survive.

Finally, my thanks to our secretariat, Rowena and Judy, who on a day to day basis are the first point of contact with the Society. They handle a wide range of tasks with quiet and impressive efficiency whilst always maintaining a cheerful and friendly demeanour.

Best wishes to every one for a prosperous new year.

Robert Muir

Chairman



Introducing the new Treasurer

Perry Kitchen (Peele A 1964-70) studied History at Oxford and trained as a Chartered Accountant with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co. (now KPMG). Following many years with Shell, he now works for an investment broker in Chelsea. Away from work he is Chairman of Putney Arts Theatre, sings in various choirs, organises a church youth orchestra and plays in an occasional rock & roll band. He thinks this has prepared him well for BSB meetings.



The CH Association CAROL CONCERT

6pm Church of
St. Andrew Holborn
5 St. Andrew Street
London EC4A 3AB

Tuesday 14th
December 2010

*Retiring collection in aid of
Necessitous Children's Fund*

Our new website is due to launch this Autumn. www.bluessupportingblues.com
Take a look and let us have your feedback.



"charge you never to forget the great benefits that you have received in this place,
and in time to come, according to your means, to do all that you can
to enable others to enjoy the same"

Interview with Julia LePla



Over rather bland biscuits and water, Julia LePla and Clare Tattersall, BSB Board Member and Chair of the BSB Presentations Committee, met in Westminster during half-term to talk about Julia's time at CH and how it felt to be a BSB Presentee during her seven years at Christ's Hospital.

You came to CH as a BSB Presentee in 2004. What were your circumstances that your family chose Christ's Hospital and to be presented by the BSB?

My mum, Elizabeth (nee Wilbraham) was at Hertford 1963 to 1968 and so was my aunt, Catherine (1965-1970) so we knew about the school. Mum and I used to live in a tiny flat in London, the local schools weren't great and it would have been difficult for me to study and she to work around the only table in the place, so CH and boarding-school life looked to be a good idea.

What did you think of the school on Open Day and what has proved different from those first impressions?

Everyone at the school was so well behaved! CH pupils do special occasions really well but when you're actually at the school, things are more normal which I'm extremely glad about! Also, I knew it attracted clever pupils and having attended inner-city primary schools I think I was looking forward to being surrounded by people more like me (I was looking forward to working really hard, I'm a secret nerd after all!).

The BSB helps Old Blues in "need, hardship or distress". How do you feel the criteria fits in with the principles of CH and the lives of other children you have known there?

I knew from my grandparents (who were teachers) about CH being a charity school and from mum and my aunt too. Over the years here, talking to friends, you do get to know everyone's circumstances and you realise how many people are in 'need, hardship and distress'. I think things have changed a little since I started with the introduction of full-fee payers, so it's different. There are definitely more Blackberries and iPods around now!

What role has the BSB played in your school life?

I remember thinking that as a BSB Presentee, I had to prove myself more as it was thought we had an easier ride into the school. I think I've hopefully done that!

I have a BSB Governor, Steve Webb, who receives my reports and who emails and sees me when he comes down to the school which is pretty often, happily.

The BSB annual lunch in October is a good opportunity to meet the BSB Board members and other Presentees, most of whom you don't encounter the rest of the year and talking to other Governors is helpful and enjoyable. Plus the food is always good, better than dining hall anyway! originally sandwiches, now a hot sit down meal. Progress.

The BSB have twice given me some money when I went to Romania on a school charity trip which was very welcome.

The BSB badge is one of the nicest ones but I found it became a good target for being hit so I wasn't so keen to wear it except at the BSB lunches of course! Perhaps when I leave I will miss it and have to sew it onto something...





What are you going on to do?

I will read Classics at whatever university will have me!

The Charge will be read to you when you leave: how do you think you might discharge that promise?

I feel the world views Christ's Hospital as just another toffee-nosed private school and I want to get rid of those preconceptions and put them right. Christ's Hospital pupils are much more 'normal', and definitely more fun, than we first appear, perhaps the strange uniform and odd traditions don't help but they're what makes us unique. And I shall spread the word about BSB, how it helps Old Blues as I think many people are unaware of the good things they can do.

Thank you, Julia. We wish you luck in all you do and hope you'll keep in touch with us.

You are a Grecian and will leave the school at the end of this academic year. Please say what you feel have been the most important aspects of your time at CH and how you feel about leaving school.

There is a great sense of community and support here. It will be strange not to live with others and have my friends around me all the time as I do now and I liked living with others in House across the years too. I have always felt there are so many opportunities within school to do or take on as much or as little as you want to. I think it's also been good that House Parents are teachers in the school, there's always someone around who can help with both aspects of school life-work and home.

Seven years is a long time so I am quite looking forward to the next step and to independence. But I will miss seeing and living with friends and not having a routine too, there's not going to be a timetable to make sure I'm doing what I should be!

“...perhaps the strange uniform and odd traditions don't help but they're what makes us unique.”

Page 2
Top: Julia LePla

Bottom: The annual BSB Presentee's lunch in the Court Room where the Presentees are joined by their Governors and Board members

Page 3
Top: Keith Mills and party with Jonas and Isabella. Jonas under a portrait of the Lord Mayor who his Governor Ian Rodgers was swab to

Bottom: Bob Betson with his Presentee Rowena





Rowena Gilbert

Since leaving CH with four A-Levels (Fine Art: A, Fashion & Textiles: A, Design & Technology: A, Maths: B) I graduated with a BA(Hons) Three Dimensional Crafts (specialising in Ceramics), went on to win “The Best Up and Coming Local Artist Award” Brighton & Hove, and set myself up in a ceramic art studio as a full time artist, designer, maker where I have built up my ceramic art career gaining a great reputation for producing original, unique, functional and sculptural ceramic

designs that have gained me exhibitions nationwide.

All was going really well when suddenly the colleague in my studio moved away and took all the ceramic equipment she let me use with her. I needed to get a kiln, kiln furniture and all the other equipment fast as could not make anything for any of my galleries and shows without it. All this equipment amounted to a massive financial cost that I had no way of paying upfront for. I made so many attempts to get funding from all different sources but every attempt was declined, “we no longer do development awards”, “you can only apply if within 3 years of starting your career”, “we don’t give funding for equipment”, “you are



not eligible for a loan” ... there was no one who would help me.

I decided to contact BSB as a desperate last attempt. I had no one else to turn to. It is my career but it’s even more important than that, so much more than just a business, it’s my passion, my life, my quest to become a great ceramic artist.

I received a letter back within a month from BSB offering me an interest free loan. I am so extremely grateful to BSB for being so understanding and supportive and to giving me the financial assistance I desperately needed to be able to buy the equipment to continue with my career. Thank you so much BSB!! I hope one day to return the favour and give help and financial support to Old Blues beginning their careers.

Rowena Gilbert, LHB/LHA 1991-1998

“Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers for my 80th birthday. It was the most gorgeous display I have ever seen, all pink and mauve and massive with a hug pink bow on the front. I had a wonderful day with all close relatives and friends and the flowers from the BSB helped make the day so special. Thank you”

Anonymous

Howard Gilbert



I left CH in 1993 and went to Durham University to study Japanese and Management. I spent some time working in Japan after university and then returned to London to work in the City. But after some years in a rather unfulfilling office job, I decided to have a career change and become an osteopath. This decision was not taken lightly, and the expense to get through the course was considerable. Becoming a university student again at the age of 29 was not a welcome prospect!

However, thanks to the generosity of the BSB, I was fortunate enough to receive an interest free loan which helped me pay my way through the latter part of the course. I qualified as an osteopath last year and I am now in a much more fulfilling profession and thoroughly enjoying it. Thank you BSB for your support and enabling my career change to be a smooth one.

Howard Gilbert, ThrB 1987-1993

Appreciation



Akua Ampofo-Twumasi

The BSB has been of immeasurable help to me ever since I left Christ's Hospital. After my hopes of attending university in America were dashed, the BSB were there to support me through my entire university career in London. Correspondence with the secretary made the whole process enjoyable and smooth. I was able to graduate in 2009 with a 2nd class

Honours degree in Linguistics from SOAS University of London.

The support the organisation rendered was not only financial but social as well. The secretary kept and still does stay in regular contact with me, asking if there is any further help I might need and also asking about my current position and occupation. I am grateful to the BSB for helping me to have a financially smoother university experience, and I feel privileged to have had my secondary at an institution as prestigious as Christ's Hospital.

The BSB truly live up to their name of a benevolent society and I would like to become a benefactor myself in time to come. Thank you so much!

Akua Ampofo-Twumasi, Coleridge A & Grec West 1999-2006

“ I am extremely grateful that a collective such as the BSB exists, and their help has been instrumental to my success during my education and professional career. I sincerely hope that I will soon be in a financial situation where I can contribute more to this fantastic institution.

Thank you BSB!”

Yuli Levtoy, Mid B & Grec West 2000-2007

Christian Collins



Blues Supporting Blues has enabled me to flourish in ways I never thought possible over the last 4 years.

It seems only yesterday that I was lucky enough to receive a place at St Andrews University to study Neuroscience. Within days of the good news the BSB confirmed they would be willing to help me out financially throughout my studies. My passion for studying the nervous system had stemmed from my mothers' neurological disorder so the chance to find out about the most complex system in the universe was very exciting. I had the chance to conduct cutting edge research on motor neuron disease in my final year; contributing to such an important field was immensely engaging. I was lucky to graduate successfully with a first class degree, which will prove truly invaluable in the future.

St Andrews also gave me the chance to progress more as a

person; I lead the committee of a well established university ball, became squad leader in the Officers training corps and became president and founder of the Neuroscience Society. Cricket has remained my passion, introduced to me by Christ's Hospital, and I

enjoyed playing regularly for the university.

Looking forward, being a graduate facing the world and the challenges it brings, I have decided to study graduate medicine in 2011. In order to maximise my chances of a successful application I am working at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, in the neurosurgery theatre, assisting the surgeon with his every need and ensuring patient safety and cleanliness at all times. I never thought I could enjoy this job as much as I have, going to work every day is a real joy. Further to this I am working to expand the clinical database of the MRC centre for neuromuscular disease and I am working with other doctors on a project on patient safety.

If Christ's Hospital has given me the drive to succeed, the BSB has given me the financial security without which none of this would be possible, and for that I thank you.

Christian Collins, Maine B & Grec East
1999-2006



“I became disabled in 2004 and as an Old Blue I approached B.S.B for some financial help.

They were so supportive and helped me to maintain my independence by purchasing an electric scooter for me and adapting the garden to suit my needs.

Over the years I have had help with furniture for my newly adapted home and more recently with a ramp for my car.

I certainly did not expect the hampers that mysteriously arrive each Christmas and also the generous cheque that I received for my birthday.

I am so grateful for all the help that they have given me as it has made such a huge difference.

Thank you everyone at the B.S.B and at Christ's Hospital.”

Anonymous Testimonial

Will You?

If you wish to leave something to the BSB in your Will, you will obviously need to talk to your solicitor. He or she may suggest a Codicil, which is a simple additional instruction to an existing Will. They may also find the following recommended wording useful:

“I give to The Benevolent Society of Blues of The Counting House, Christ's Hospital, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 0YP, for the general purposes of the Society, the sum of £..... free of all taxes. And I declare that the receipt in writing of either the Secretary or the Treasurer of the Society shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.”

For further information please contact Rowena Harris at the BSB.

Legacies were received during the year from:

Mrs Ann Elizabeth Drake (2 and 3rd payments) – the widow of C S (Paddy) Drake (Ba B/Ma B 1939-47), Mary Ann Maybrey (Ward 8 1948-56), Mary M Wilson (CH Staff 1950-85), Ernest L Curtis (Pe B 1927-32), Mary Louise Smith, Anthony Thomas Napier (Bb 1933-39); Group Capt John B Veal CBE (MaB 1920-26).

We are very grateful for all these people for their generosity.

Treasurer's Report by Perry Kitchen

The principal features of the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2010 were as follows:

- Subscriptions and donations amounted to nearly £54,000 (including Gift Aid), £2,000 more than in 2009, which itself reflected a healthy upswing. Thanks are due to the Secretariat, who have encouraged former members to renew their subscriptions and new members to join.
- We were very fortunate to receive a number of generous legacies from Old Blues during the year totalling £26,000. The names of those who left legacies are shown in the 'Will You?'
- Investment income at £67,000 was just above last year. Distributions from investment managers increased about 10% but deposit interest plummeted.
- Total incoming funds at £146,000 were £10,000 less than in 2009, because last year we had the benefit of some very generous legacies.
- The assistance given to older beneficiaries was steady at about £11,000, but it remains important to seek out more persons in this age group who are in need of help from the Society.
- Grants paid to other beneficiaries were higher at £47,000, (2009 £39,000), the increase mainly being grants to students.
- Support grants for needy pupils at the school to assist with house funds and pocket money, as well as for clothing, travel and other purposes, amounted to £1,000.
- There were no donations to Christ's Hospital in the year related to the appointment of new donation governors since sufficient BSB nominated governors were available. The policy continues to be to present an average of two to three children a year to the school, so further funds will be subscribed for this purpose in due course.
- Salaries and support costs, at £37,000, were very similar to last year, as were governance costs (£6,000).
- Total resources expended amounted to £142,000, resulting in a net surplus of income over expenditure of £4,000.
- Loans advanced to individuals on an interest free basis amounted to £81,000 (2009 £58,000), the increase mainly being loans to students.
- Loan repayments, at £29,000, were less than £37,000 received in 2009. In part this is because many new loans to students are not yet due for repayment, and in part because very successful efforts in recent years to seek repayment have reduced the book of old outstanding debts to a harder core of difficult cases. However, the Secretariat has kept up the hard work and achieved a steady stream of repayments as well as the occasional major success.
- There has been a bounce back from the severe recession in world stock markets and the Society's investments have increased in value by £201,000, from £1,583,000 to £1,784,000. The directors are reasonably confident that the present spread of investments and fund managers in place will provide a sufficient flow of income for immediate needs and stability for the long term.

For further information please contact:

Rowena Harris (The Secretary) | The Benevolent Society of Blues

6 | The Counting House | Christ's Hospital | Horsham | West Sussex | RH13 0YP

Telephone: 01403 247418 Email: rowena@bluessupportingblues.net or visit our Website: www.bluessupportingblues.com

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of The Benevolent Society of Blues will be held at The City University Club

50 Cornhill, London EC3V 3PD at 6pm on Tuesday 11 January 2011

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 February 2010
3. Matters Arising
4. To re-elect Sir Garry Johnson as President
5. Report from the Chairman of the Board
6. To receive the Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2010
7. To approve the re-appointment of Rawlinson & Hunter as Auditors
8. To re-elect Gordon Bloor, Mike Mather and Claire Tattersall
9. To acknowledge the retirement of Dr. Robert Sillett from the Board
10. To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting

Any member wishing to nominate a candidate for the office of Director of the Society should send the name of such candidate to the Secretary (consent to serve having previously been obtained) at least six weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

Officers

President: Sir Garry Johnson, KCB, OBE, MC

Chairman: Robert W Muir, LLB

Deputy Diana A Garnham, MA

Chair:

Treasurer: Perry D C N Kitchen MA FCA

Secretary: Mrs Rowena Harris

The Counting House

Christ's Hospital

Horsham

West Sussex

RH13 0YP

Telephone: 01403 247418

Email: rowena@bluessupportingblues.net

Directors: Sarah J Adamson

Gordon C Bloor

James Y Bogue

Keith R Bryan

Robin Clarke

Andrw Cosedge

Catherine M Ennis

Diana A Garnham

Sophie Lindsay

Sian C Keall

Perry D C N Kitchen

Nicholas C de Mattos

Michael J Mather

Robert W Muir

Brian W D Richards

Clare V Tattersall

School Mrs J.S Thomson, BA

Liaison Officer:

Auditors: Rawlinson & Hunter

Eighth Floor,

6 New Street Square

New Fetter Lane

EC4A 3AQ

Bankers: National Westminster Bank Plc

P.O. Box 12264

1 Princes Street

London

EC2R 8PB



Summary

of the Annual Accounts

The following abridged financial information is extracted from the statutory accounts for the year ended 30 June 2010 upon which the Auditors have given an unqualified opinion:

INCOME	2010	2009
	£	£
Subscriptions (including Gift Aid)	47,647	44,850
Donations (including Gift Aid)	6,025	6,874
Legacies	25,512	39,181
Dividends and interest	66,691	65,355
TOTAL	145,875	156,260
EXPENDITURE		
Assistance for older beneficiaries	10,991	12,006
Grants to other beneficiaries	47,470	39,132
Support grants to pupils	1,357	10,985
Loans unlikely to be recovered	40,000	21,000
Donations to Christ's Hospital	-	-
Salaries and support costs	36,932	37,020
Governance costs	5,977	5,526
Investment management (rebates)	(598)	(924)
TOTAL	142,149	124,745
NET INCOMINGS / (OUTGOINGS)	3,746	31,515
Net (losses)/gains on investments	89,239	(319,050)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	92,985	(287,535)

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2010

	2010	2009
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Investments	1,784,656	1,583,313
CURRENT ASSETS		
Loans	325,183	313,485
Cash balances	142,539	152,728
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	(8,861)	(10,566)
NET ASSETS	2,243,517	2,038,960
FUNDS		
Restricted	1,252,247	879,698
Unrestricted	991,270	1,159,262
TOTAL	2,243,517	2,038,960

A copy of the full Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary.

For further information please contact:

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